



EAI Presents at Monkeytown

NOVEMBER 2005: ANT FARM

EAI is pleased to present an ongoing series of monthly programs at Monkeytown. The programs feature works selected from EAI's extensive collection and profile the artists whose works make up this extraordinary archive.

Thursday, November 3, 10, & 17, 2005

First Seating: 7:30 pm

Second Seating: 10:00 pm

Program length: 85 minutes

Admission: \$10

Monkeytown: 58 North 3rd Street, Williamsburg, Brooklyn

Reservations are recommended: www.monkeytownhq.com



EAI presents four works by legendary media collective **Ant Farm**. Ant Farm specialized in their own unique brand of live media intervention. Featuring footage of Ant Farm at work, documents of their performances, and interviews with the collective, their audiences, and accidental observers, these works are the closest that we can come to actually being at one of their Spectacles.

In *Media Burn* (1975-2003) and *Cadillac Ranch Show* (1974-94), Ant Farm encourages the viewer to find new uses for the automobile and to declare independence from Television. *The Eternal Frame* (1975), in which Ant Farm restages the infamous Zapruder film of John F. Kennedy's assassination, is a dark examination of this iconic event and the media. Finally, *Inflatables Illustrated* (1971-2003) shows Ant Farm at their most utopian, experimenting with DIY inflatable architecture in Ant Farm's version of a How-To Video. Throughout the four pieces, Ant Farm suggests that another, very different world can be built out of the wreckage of consumer culture.

Ant Farm was an innovative countercultural collective working in media, architecture and spectacle from the late 1960s through the 1970s. Their media events, site structures, performances and videotapes merge an irreverent pop humor with cultural and political critique. Founded in 1968 in San Francisco by Chip Lord and Doug Michels as an alternative architecture, graphic arts, and environmental design practice, Ant Farm expanded to include Curtis Schreier and, at times, Douglas Hurr and Hudson Marquez. Functioning as a self-proclaimed "art agency that promotes ideas that have no commercial potential, but which we think are important vehicles of cultural introspection," Ant Farm was one of the most influential of the early media-based collectives.

Ant Farm's media events and performances, which integrated art into everyday life, were conceptual works that challenged the symbols and ideologies of post-war American culture and mass media. Conceived on a public scale, their projects were distinguished by an ironic humor, an awareness of the media's fascination with spectacle, and a postmodern use of America's kitsch culture of automobiles and television.

About EAI: Founded in 1971, Electronic Arts Intermix (EAI) is one of the world's leading nonprofit resources for video art and interactive media. As a pioneer and advocate of the media arts and artists, EAI's core program is the international distribution of a major collection of new and historical media works by artists. EAI's leadership position in the media arts extends to our preservation program, viewing access, educational services, online resources, exhibitions and events. The Online Catalogue provides a comprehensive resource on the 175 artists and 3,000 works in the EAI collection, including artists' biographies, descriptions of works, QuickTime excerpts, research materials, Web projects, and online ordering.

For more information about this program contact: Josh Kline (josh@eai.org) T: (212)-337-0680 www.eai.org

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